UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/25908
8 June 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 5 JUNE 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On 5 June 1993 at 9.30 New York time, I received an urgent report from Gorazde. Despite the adoption of the most recent United Nations Security Council resolution 836 (1993) regarding the six towns designated as "safe areas", the Serbian aggressors continue their brutal attacks on Gorazde. The most severe offensive is being carried out from the direction of Visegrad. Hundreds of shells of different calibres are hitting the town and surrounding areas. The situation is especially alarming in the city hospital (or what is left of it), where only a few of the ill and wounded can receive minimal medical help. The hospital staff warns that it is impossible to carry out medical interventions. The hospital is lacking in all medicines, antiseptics, oxygen, food, water and oil.

The population is lacking food and drinking water. Chronic hunger and malnutrition help the spread of contagious diseases. The town has not received a single relief convoy for over two months. Not a single United Nations observer has braved Serbian obstructions to enter and fulfil the Security Council's mandate.

If we are to take seriously the designation of Gorazde as a "safe area", we expect the Security Council to act in accordance with the adopted resolution and "deter attacks against safe areas". The least that we should expect is that United Nations mandated forces already in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina would undertake "all measures necessary" to ensure the delivery of humanitarian aid in accordance with resolutions 770 (1993) and 836 (1993), and to investigate the overall situation. The fate of these people has been clearly now assumed by the Security Council at the insistence of its most powerful and able members. I, as the diplomatic representative of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, may be sceptical of this commitment. The people of Gorazde have no choice but to place their lives within the responsibility of the Security Council and its permanent members.

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative